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Commissioner Bob Stump, Chairman
Arizona Corporation Commission
1300 W. Washington St.
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Commissioner Stump:

There have been several recent news stories in the local media regarding APS pursuing a change to the credit given solar customers for excess power generated. In particular, we noted some details in the May 16, 2013 edition of the Business Section of the Arizona Republic. We wish to disagree strongly with the APS position as we understand it.

We moved into a 15 year old home in north Scottsdale with a flat roof last May. We decided to install a "whole house" solar system and it was "commissioned" by APS in September. The total cost was approx. \$34,800, partially offset by a \$10,400 federal tax credit, \$1,000 State tax credit, and \$4,620 rebate from APS (which we understand is a taxable event). Even with all that, the payback on the system is calculated at 8.5 years (not a particularly good investment for a capital item). In addition, we were told by our contractor that the panels begin to degrade at about 15 years, and may need to be replaced around 20 years out.

Your Commission set the "rule" that APS needs 15% of their power to be generated by renewable resources by 2025. If this rule and the incentives were not in place, no one would do it. We need the current credit structure to make this work financially. If APS is successful in their bid to lower the credit, and if we had known this in advance, we would never have made this investment. It is simply unfair to change the rules after the investment is made. We are asking you to do the right thing in refusing to lower any credit APS provides to their solar customers.

Very truly yours,


Stanley R. Whitcomb

Scottsdale, AZ 85266-7605


Gladys M. Whitcomb

Arizona Corporation Commission
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